

# **CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

## **JAIL HEALTH SERVICES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The City and County of San Francisco **Jail Health Services (JHS)** provides a comprehensive and integrated system of medical, psychiatric and substance abuse care to the prisoners in the San Francisco County Jail system. JHS staff triages and medically screens over 50,000 inmates annually.

JHS provides health and related services consistent with community standards as detailed by the California Medical Association Standards for Health Services in Adult Detention Facilities as well as mandates from the courts and other criminal justice agencies.

The provision of health services to inmates presents unique challenges to JHS staff. We meet this challenge by delivering quality care to a diverse population that rarely utilizes existing health services, particularly preventive and early intervention care, when in the community. Our discharge planning program develops links between existing community based health and human services and patients, enabling individuals to engage in the appropriate system/s after release from jail. This results in improved health and well being for the individuals, their families and the community.

The City and County of San Francisco maintains six County Jails. Four of these jails are located in San Francisco. The remaining two facilities are located in San Bruno, just south of the City of San Francisco. All jails, with the exception of one dedicated intake and release facility, provide inmate housing.

JHS also maintains two acute care wards at the San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) for provision of inpatient services. SFGH Ward 7D cares for medical conditions and Ward 7L handles patients with psychiatric conditions.

The City and County of San Francisco Sheriff's Department (SFSD) oversees the security, booking, housing and release of all inmates confined at all of these facilities.

For more information, contact Jail Health Services at 415/995-1700.

### **JAIL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAMS**

#### **Medical Services**

Medical staff identifies, treats and monitors inmates' medical needs during the duration of their incarceration. Physicians and/or Nurse Practitioners see patients in clinics at each jail five to seven days per week. A physician remains on-call for evening and weekend emergencies. Custody staff transports inmates to the SFGH emergency room and medical / surgical specialty clinics for evaluation and/or treatment beyond the services available in the jails.

Clinical Pharmacists conduct chronic care clinics for management of diabetes, hypertension and asthma. These clinics attempt to prevent excess morbidity, disability and mortality attributable to chronic diseases. A Pharmacist manages drug therapy, provides patient education on medication use and disease states and develops discharge plans.

### **Nursing Services**

JHS provides nursing services in all jails twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Standardized nursing services include patient screening, assessments, treatment, medication administration, patient monitoring and education.

### **Jail Dental Services**

JHS offers dental services to all inmates in the County Jails. Dental Services include x-rays, sedative fillings, permanent fillings, extractions and referrals for patients with more serious conditions to the oral surgery clinic at SFGH. Dental Services also has limited funds available for dental prosthetics for patients with special dental needs.

### **Jail Pharmacy Services**

Three Licensed Correctional Facility pharmacies serve the six County Jails under the supervision of the Pharmacy Director. A pharmacist or pharmacy technician dispenses medication to nursing staff for administration to prisoners.

### **Jail Psychiatric Services**

Jail Psychiatric Services (JPS), a component of Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, Inc., employs a multidisciplinary staff composed of psychiatrists, psychologists, registered nurses, psychiatric counselors and case managers. JPS provides contract services to Jail Health Services and receives supervision and oversight from the Director of JHS.

JPS has mental health services available to all County Jail facilities seven days a week, including day, evening and weekend coverage. JPS provides emergency coverage twenty-four hours a day.

JPS provides a variety of mental health services including: crisis intervention, screening and initial evaluation, ongoing individual or group psychotherapy, medication evaluation and administration, post-release placement and referral services, consultation with the Sheriff's Department to determine appropriate housing, Municipal and Superior Court-ordered evaluations (PC 4011.6), daily monitoring of the segregated housing unit for chronically impaired inmates and hospitalization of inmates with acute mental illnesses at San Francisco General Hospital (W&I C 5150). In addition to basic mental health treatment, issues covered by JPS staff may include living skills, stress reduction, domestic violence and women's issues such as sexual abuse and separation from one's children.

JPS coordinates provisions for hospitalization of prisoners in acute psychiatric distress with San Francisco General Hospital, Ward 7L (security ward). Ward 7L provides full inpatient treatment services to prisoners whose psychiatric conditions preclude housing in the jail facilities.

Additionally, JPS offers regular training and education to the Sheriff's Department regarding suicide prevention, stress reduction and management of psychiatrically impaired prisoners. For more information, call Jail Psychiatric Services at 415/487-5601.

### **Jail Aftercare Services (JAS)**

JAS assists prisoners with serious mental health problems to obtain treatment and social support services in the community upon release from jail. Jail Psychiatric Services (JPS) has established an Intensive Case Management Unit that works in collaboration with an intensive case management program at the University of California, San Francisco. Through intensive case management, JPS strives to reduce jail recidivism and inpatient psychiatric hospitalization by directly assisting clients in the community with meeting their basic needs and providing individual therapy and supportive counseling.

### **SFGH Medical Center and Security Wards 7D and 7L**

SFGH has security wards available for prisoners in need of acute care for medical or psychiatric problems.

A national model for inpatient, in-custody services, Ward 7D (medical/surgical) and Ward 7L (psychiatric) operate as maximum-security wards, staffed by the San Francisco Sheriff's Department, within the main facility of SFGH. The Sheriff's Department provides transportation for inmates between the jails and the hospital. The patients on these wards have full access to the resources within the hospital. The Director of Jail Health Services acts as a liaison between the hospital and jail medical services.

### **Forensic AIDS Project and Medical Social Work Unit**

The Forensic AIDS Project (FAP) began providing HIV education to inmates in 1983. Over the years, the services have grown and the program now provides a full spectrum of HIV/AIDS prevention services and primary medical care and case management for HIV+ inmates.

FAP provides a model for HIV services in jails and prisons. It was the first program in California to provide these services and currently the only such facility in the State (and only one of six nationwide) with a condom distribution program. FAP provides the following services:

#### **Counseling and Testing Program**

Under a grant monitored by the San Francisco AIDS office and funded by Centers for Disease Control prevention funds, FAP provides services targeted at inmates whose behaviors put them at risk for HIV. Services include: risk assessment counseling, confidential HIV testing, disclosure counseling, enhanced individual counseling, group education, HIV/STD/TB educational literature, condom distribution, referral and community resource information, referral for HIV/AIDS resources.

#### **Early Intervention Program**

FAP provides primary medical care and case management for HIV+ inmates through its Early Intervention Program. Funded through the San Francisco AIDS Office by Ryan White Title I CARE funds, the Early Intervention Team provides: primary medical care, case management, social work services, HIV education, medication planning, nutrition planning, referral and community resource information, alternative placement, compassionate release, post-release planning and community follow-up.

### **Medical Social Work Unit**

The Medical Social Work Unit provides social work services to non-HIV, medically vulnerable inmates including: psycho-social needs assessment, crisis intervention, supportive counseling, assistance with obtaining medical care, assistance with ancillary medical needs and services, HIV/STD/TB education, counseling and testing, compassionate release, counseling and support services for pregnant women.

### **Discharge Planning**

Jail Health Services has a Discharge Planning Unit. All persons released from the San Francisco County jail have access to these services. This gives all releasees the opportunity to access services from the Discharge Unit. Those releasees with significant medical, mental health and substance abuse problems can obtain referrals from the Discharge Planning Unit.

The Unit also provides discharge medications to patients with tuberculosis, HIV and chronic diseases. Discharge Planning makes presentations and conducts classes in the jail housing units to inform inmates of resources available through the Unit. Each jail also provides information on the Discharge Planning Unit as a part of inmate orientation. The Discharge Planning Unit serves as the catalyst in linking individuals to needed resources for reentering the community

### **Continuous Quality Improvement Program**

The Jail Health Services' Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Program has established an interdisciplinary approach to improving the quality of patient care. CQI focuses on improving systems, operational procedures and patient care protocols and ensuring that staff has the resources necessary to effectively perform their jobs. CQI makes objective evaluations of the efficiency and effectiveness of Jail Health Services and facilitates the implementation of corrective action plans when indicated.

### **Tuberculosis and Other Infectious Disease**

Tuberculosis and other infectious disease surveillance programs in the jails provide a significant opportunity to screen, diagnose and treat people who generally do not receive health care in the community. While new cases of tuberculosis continue to enter the jail system, intake medical screening and intense post admission screening for TB infection have greatly reduced the severity of exposure for employees and other inmates.

Jail Health Services and the Sexually Transmitted Disease clinic have collaborated in the planning and funding of expanded programs for the screening of inmates for sexually transmitted disease. JHS currently performs urine based screening for gonorrhea and chlamydia and serologic testing for syphilis.